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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

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INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Yugoslavia

DATE DISTR. 15 June 1948

SUBJECT Yugoslav Navy Requisitioning of
Motor Vessels

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1. By an order of the Naval Headquarters signed by Vice-Admiral Josip Cerni, counter-signed by Rear-Admiral Diro M. Loncarevic and dated 19 March 1948, all motor vessels in the Adriatic belonging to civilians or commercial establishments must be concentrated at the reserve points of the GDTM (Generalna Direkcija Trgovske Mornarice - Directorate General of the Merchant Navy).
2. This order was executed in great secrecy. Inspectors of the GDTM inspected these vessels shortly after the order was published.
3. The official explanation of this measure is the necessity of preparing for the summer camps of Yugoslav youth which will be organized along the Adriatic coast.
4. All these motor vessels are guarded by sentries and several of them are already prepared for the installation of their armament (machine guns and light guns of different types).
5. Since 1 March 1948 there has been in existence a Headquarters of the Naval Volunteers under the command of Rear-Admiral D.M. Loncarevic.
6. This Headquarters has taken charge of the marine workshops at Solici which have already prepared 150 military pontoons, the material for which was supplied to Yugoslavia for civilian transport by UNRRA. These pontoons, converted for landing purposes, are already attached to the naval ports: Split - 30, Sibenik - 18, Zara - 40, Dubrovnik - 12, Pola - 20, Fiume - 10, Boka-Kotorska - 20. They previously belonged to the GDTM.
7. Several transports with materials for marine armament arrived in Yugoslavia via Rumania between the end of December 1947 and the end of March 1948. All these materials have now been placed at the disposal of the Headquarters of the Naval Volunteers.

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